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The reading of papers was then begun.

1. "New interpretation of passages in Chaucer's *Prologue*." By Professor Ewald Fluegel, of Leland Stanford Jr. University.

In the absence of the author this paper was read by Professor F. A. Blackburn. It will appear in full in the *Journal of Germanic Philology*, Vol. I.

Remarks were made by Professors A. H. Tolman, C. A. Smith, and F. A. Blackburn.

The Secretary made the following announcement :

"The Directors of the University Club (Grand Ave.) extend a cordial invitation to the members of the Modern Language Association to make the Club their home during their sojourn in St. Louis. Cards signed by the Secretary admit."

2. "On the original form of the Sigfrid saga." By Professor Julius Goebel, of Leland Stanford Jr. University. [Read by Professor W. E. Simonds.]

The paper was discussed by Professors F. A. Blackburn, W. H. Carruth, L. Fossler and H. Schmidt-Wartenberg.

3. "Goethe's influence a possible factor in Schopenhauer's pessimism." By Professor Otto Heller, of Washington University.

While Goethe's relations with eminent contemporaries seem to be pretty well explored, the influence exerted by him upon Schopenhauer still offers a field for investigation. The two men held each other in extraordinarily high regard, and in some important respects their world-views were strikingly consonant.

Schopenhauer first met Goethe in his mother's house. In the winter of 1813-14 a lively intercourse took place between the two. Schopenhauer was made acquainted with Goethe's experiments and speculations on the subject of his *Farbenlehre*. Later many letters were exchanged. G. predicted that S. would "eines Tages und allen über den Kopf wachsen." Notices relating to S. are found in *Tag- und Jahreshefte*, sub 1816 and 1819. In May, 1814, G. inscribed a significant couplet in S.'s album. He watched the young doctor's career with keen interest. About *Die Welt als Wille und*